

***Hymn: Love divine all loves excelling***

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down:  
fix in us your humble dwelling,  
all your faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, you are all compassion,  
boundless love that makes us whole;  
visit us with your salvation,  
enter every trembling soul.

Breathe on us your loving Spirit;  
every troubled heart be blessed:  
let us all in you inherit,  
let us find your promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning,  
Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning,  
set our hearts at liberty.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all your grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore your temples leave:  
you we would be always blessing,  
serve you as your hosts above,  
pray and praise you without ceasing,  
glory in your perfect love.

Finish then your new creation,  
pure and sinless let us be;  
let us see your great salvation  
perfect in eternity:  
changed from glory into glory  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we lay our crowns before you,  
lost in wonder, love and praise.

*Poem: 'The Art of Marriage' by Wilfred Arlan Peterson read by  
Tomasina Hall*

*The Prayers: led by Reverend Chantal Mason*

Faithful God, holy and eternal, source of life and spring of love, we thank and praise you for bringing Charles and Betty to this today, and we pray for them.

Lord of life and love

**All: Hear our prayer.**

May their marriage be life-giving and life-long, enriched by your presence and strengthened by your grace; may they bring comfort and confidence to each other in faithfulness and trust.

Lord of life and love.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

May the hospitality of their home bring refreshment and joy to all around them; may their love overflow to neighbours in need and embrace those in distress.

Lord of life and love.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

May they discern in your Word order and purpose for their lives; and may the power of your Holy Spirit lead them in truth and defend them in adversity.

Lord of life and love.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

May they nurture their family with devotion, see their children grow in body, mind and spirit and come at last to the end of their lives with hearts content and in joyful anticipation of heaven.

Lord of life and love.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

As our Saviour taught us so we pray:

**All: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

*Hymn: Make me a channel of your peace*

Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love  
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord  
And where there's doubt, true faith in you

Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope  
Where there is darkness, only light  
And where there's sadness ever joy

Oh, master grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console  
To be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love with all my soul

Make me a channel of your peace  
It isn't pardoning that we are pardoned  
In giving to all men let we receive  
And in dying that we're born to turn around

Oh, master grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console  
To be understood as to understand  
To be loved as to love with all my soul

Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope  
Where there is darkness, only light  
And where there's sadness ever joy

***The Blessing: The Reverend Chantal Mason***

God, the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love,  
defend you on every side,  
and guide you in truth and peace,  
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit  
be among you and remain with you always.  
Amen.

***The Departure of The Bride and Groom: Toccata in Seven  
by John Rutter***

***\*\*Brief interval before the baptisms\*\****

THE BAPTISMS OF

DEXTER FRANK OTIS HORN

&

RITA JEAN JILLIAN HORN



*Welcome (back!) song: Largo from Xerxes by George Handel*

## *The Welcome*

### *Opening Prayer*

*Hymn: Lord of the dance*

I danced in the morning  
When the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon  
And the stars and the sun,  
And I came down from heaven  
And I danced on the earth,  
At Bethlehem  
I had my birth.

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe  
And the pharisee,  
But they would not dance  
And they wouldn't follow me.  
I danced for the fishermen,  
For James and John –  
They came with me  
And the Dance went on.  
*Dance, then, wherever you may be...*

I danced on the Sabbath  
And I cured the lame;  
The holy people  
Said it was a shame.  
They whipped and they stripped  
And they hung me on high,  
And they left me there  
On a Cross to die.  
*Dance, then, wherever you may be...*

I danced on a Friday  
When the sky turned black –  
It's hard to dance  
With the devil on your back.  
They buried my body  
And they thought I'd gone,  
But I am the Dance,  
And I still go on.  
*Dance, then, wherever you may be...*

They cut me down  
And I leapt up high;  
I am the life  
That'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you  
If you'll live in me –  
I am the Lord  
Of the Dance, said he.  
*Dance, then, wherever you may be...*

***Bible Reading:*** *Colossians 3:9-14 read by Nina Ludgate*

***The Address***

***Extract from Hamlet:*** *'Polonius' Advice to Laertes' read by  
Christine Losecaat*

***The Liturgy of Baptism:*** *Introduction and Address by  
Reverend Chantal Mason*

Faith is the gift of God to his people. In baptism the Lord is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome Dexter and Rita and uphold them in their new life in Christ?

**All: With the help of God, we will.**

*The minister then says to the parents and godparents:*

The Church receives Dexter and Rita with joy. Today we are trusting God for their growth in faith. Will you pray for them, draw them by your example into the community of faith and walk with her in the way of Christ?

**Godparents: With the help of God, we will.**

In baptism Dexter and Rita begin their journey of faith. You speak for them today. Will you care for them, and help them to take their place within the life and worship of Christ's Church?

**Godparents: With the help of God, we will.**

***The Decision:** The minister addresses the parents and godparents:*

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore, I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

**Godparents: I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

**Godparents: I reject them.**



Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

**Godparents: I reject them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**Godparents: I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

**Godparents: I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

**Godparents: I come to Christ.**

*Signing with the Cross: The minister makes the sign of the cross on Dexter and Rita's foreheads, saying:*

Dexter and Rita, Christ claims you for his own.  
Receive the sign of his cross.

*The parents and godparents are invited to sign Dexter and Rita with the cross*

Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**All: Fight valiantly as a disciple of Christ against sin, the world and the devil, and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,  
restore in you the image of his glory,  
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

**All: Amen.**

***Prayer over the Water:** The minister stands before the water of baptism and says:*

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

**All: who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ was baptised in the river Jordan, we thank you for the gift of water to cleanse us and revive us. Saving God,

**All: Give us life.**

We thank you that through the waters of the Red Sea you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the Promised Land. Saving God,

**All: Give us life.**

We thank you that through the deep waters of death you brought your Son, and raised him to life in triumph. Saving God,

**All: Give us life.**

Bless this water, that your servant who is washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and in his resurrection,

to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Saving God,

**All: Give us life.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon Dexter and Rita bring them to new birth in the household of faith and raise them with Christ to full and eternal life; for all might, majesty, authority and power are yours, now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

*Please all stand*

***Profession of Faith:*** *Let us affirm our common faith in Jesus Christ.*

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**All: I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**All: I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**All: I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.**

We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*Please all sit*

***The Baptism:***

Dexter Frank Otis  
I baptise you  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

Rita Jean Jillian  
I baptise you  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

May God, who has received you by baptism into his Church, pour upon you the riches of his grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit, and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

**All: Amen.**

***The Welcome:***

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:  
by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

**All: Dexter and Rita, we welcome you into the fellowship of faith; we are children of the same heavenly Father; we welcome you.**

***The Prayers: led by Clare Horn***